

Bishopston 3G Surface Project - Briefing

Background

Bishopston Comprehensive School have identified an opportunity to significantly develop the existing hard court facilities at the school to increase and enhance opportunities for both school and community-based provision. The project includes the resurfacing and re-fencing of the existing tennis court area with a 3G artificial surface which would service football and rugby as well as various other health related physical activity opportunities. Additionally, the areas currently occupied by a multi-use games area and adjacent hard court would be developed with a traditional 'astro turf' area suitable for hockey and tennis. As an added bonus the school has also negotiated with the developer to replace an artificial cricket wicket on the site as part of the agreed overall cost.

The project has been made possible by significant financial assistance from the Arwyn Harris Community Sports Foundation, which was set up in the name of an ex-PE teacher and well known community sportsman Arwyn Harris, with a view to leaving a long-lasting legacy in his name. Through various fundraising activities and donations they now have 70k of capital funding available.

As part of the fundraising, contact was made with the local community regarding what was needed in terms of facility development in the area. Due to the extremely strong traditional sporting infrastructure in the community the overwhelming choice was for the development of an all- weather surface. The Foundation can evidence a considerable amount of the funds they have raised coming directly from Football and Rugby clubs (and individual club members) in the surrounding area.

Finance

In addition to the £70k committed by the Trust, the school and Council Departments have committed additional funds of 36k towards the project, leaving a shortfall of 15k which will be applied for as part of a Sport Wales Development grant bid.

Timescale

It is anticipated that the project will commence in mid- August 2016 and be completed by the end of the school summer holiday period, allowing for minimum disruption on the school site during the autumn term and also being available as soon as possible for the school PE department and for the local clubs and wider community.